

Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| STIP Project No. | BR-0110 |
| WBS Element | 48819.1.1 |
| Federal Project No. | N/A |

A. Project Description:

This project is comprised of the Replacement of Bridge No. 060072 over Chocowinity Creek on SR 1127 (Possum Track Road) in Beaufort County, North Carolina. The bridge will be replaced on the existing alignment while detouring traffic offsite, see attached: Figure 1- BR-0110 Project Location Map, and Figure 2 - BR-0110 Project Disturbance Map.

The proposed bridge will be approximately 95 feet long with a minimum clear roadway width of 30.8 feet. The approach roadway will extend approximately 146 feet and 267 feet on the west and east ends of the bridge, respectively. Two-foot paved shoulders will be provided on each side.

B. Description of Need and Purpose:

Built in 1976 the bridge requires replacement due deterioration of structural elements. The posted weight limits for the bridge are currently 24 Tons and 38 Tons for single vehicles and truck tractors-semitrailers, respectively. The existing bridge is 68 feet long with a clear roadway width of 28 feet. Bridge No. 072 has a sufficiency rating of 56.77 and is categorized as "Not Deficient". However, the superstructure and substructure timber elements show signs of deterioration, and have had priority maintenance repairs performed on the substructure elements. This is a bridge replacement and safety improvement project.

The replacement of Bridge No. 072 is part of the Growing Rural Economy and Agriculture through Transportation and Technology Enhancement or Replacement in North Carolina (GREATER-NC) Project under the United States Department of Transportation's 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant program. The purpose of the grant and this bridge replacement project is to provide transportation infrastructure to support economic development and improve physical and digital connectivity in rural communities in North Carolina. The posted weight restriction on Bridge No. 072 prohibits large or heavy vehicles, typically used in transporting agricultural and manufactured products, from using the bridge. Vehicles above the posted weight must detour 6 miles to avoid the bridge. Replacing the existing bridge will eliminate posted weight limits by providing a safe crossing for all legal loads and will make accommodations for broadband installation in order to support economic competitiveness.

C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification:



TYPE I A

D. Proposed Improvements

28. Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).

E. Special Project Information:

Alternatives Discussion:

No-Build – The no build alternative would result in eventually closing the road, which is unacceptable given the volume traffic served by SR 1127 (Possum Track Road).

Rehabilitation – The bridge was constructed in 1976 and the timber materials within the bridge are reaching the end of their useful life. Rehabilitation would require replacing the timber component, which would constitute effectively replacing the bridge.

Onsite Detour – An onsite detour was not evaluated due to the presence of a feasible offsite detour.

Staged Construction – Staged construction was not considered because of the availability of an acceptable offsite detour.

New Alignment – Given that the alignment for SR 1127 is acceptable, a new alignment was not considered as an alternative.

Offsite Detour (Preferred) – Traffic will be detoured offsite during the construction period. The 4.9-mile offsite detour includes SR 1137 and NC HWY 33. NC HWY 33 and SR 1127 (Possum Track Road) directly service Southside High School. Thus, Beaufort County emergency services and Southside High School shall be contacted at least one month prior to beginning of construction. The condition of all roads, bridges and intersections on the offsite detour are acceptable without improvement and concurs with the use of the detour. See attached Figure 3 - BR-0110 Detour Map.

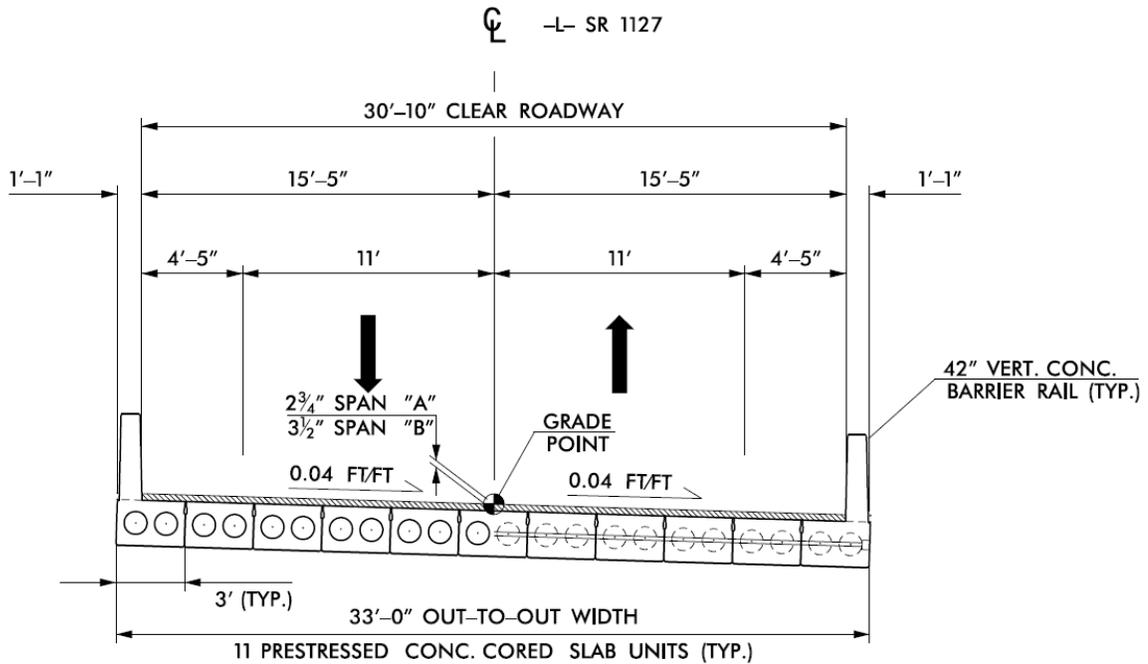
Design Issues:

Traffic: Current: 610 ADT
TTST: 3%, Duals: 3%
Local Rural – NCDOT Sub-regional Tier Guidelines
Design Speed – 55 mph
No design exceptions required

Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations:

SR 1127 (Possum Track Road) is not part of a NC or US designated bike route. Thus, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are not required for this project.

Typical Section for Bridge:



Cost Estimate:

The estimated project costs for the Selected Alternative, based on 2019 prices, are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Right of Way | \$140,000 |
| Construction | \$725,000 |
| Total Cost: \$865,000 | |

Anticipated Permits or Consultation Requirements:

The proposed project has been designated as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the purposes of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. As a result, a Nationwide Permit will likely be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for impacts to “Waters of the United States” resulting from this project. The USACE holds the final discretion as to what permit will be required to authorize project construction.

Public Involvement:

NCDOT will minimize any impact to businesses along SR 1127 during construction and will try to expedite the construction time. The area is primarily rural residential and agricultural regarding land use. A landowner notification was sent February 6, 2019. No comments have been received to date.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

| <u>Type I & II - Ground Disturbing Actions</u> | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----|
| <u>FHWA APPROVAL ACTIVITIES THRESHOLD CRITERIA</u> | | | | |
| If any of questions 1-7 are marked "yes" then the CE will require FHWA approval. | | | Yes | No |
| 1 | Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 2 | Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3 | Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 4 | Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 5 | Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 6 | Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 7 | Does the project include adverse effects that cannot be resolved with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or have an adverse effect on a National Historic Landmark (NHL)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| If any of questions 8 through 31 are marked "yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G. | | | | |
| <u>Other Considerations</u> | | | Yes | No |
| 8 | Does the project result in a finding of "may affect not likely to adversely affect" for listed species, or designated critical habitat under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 9 | Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 10 | Does the project impact waters classified as Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), High Quality Water (HQW), Water Supply Watershed Critical Areas, 303(d) listed impaired water bodies, buffer rules, or Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 11 | Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 12 | Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 13 | Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 14 | Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

| <u>Other Considerations (continued)</u> | | Yes | No |
|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 15 | Does the project involve hazardous materials and/or landfills? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Does the project require work encroaching and adversely affecting a regulatory floodway or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 23 CFR 650 subpart A? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Is the project in a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) county and substantially affects the coastal zone and/or any Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | Does the project involve any changes in access control? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | Is the project inconsistent with the STIP or the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (where applicable)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | Does the project require the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with public-use money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 | Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 | Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT's Noise Policy? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 | Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

Question 8 – Endangered Species:

The USFWS has developed a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), USACE, and NCDOT for the NLEB (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for five years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Beaufort County, where this project is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of a final listing determination through April 30, 2020.

Question 10:

The project is located in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin and has buffers.

H. Project Commitments

See attached Project Commitments Green Sheet.

I. Categorical Exclusion Approval

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| STIP Project No. | <u>BR-0110</u> |
| WBS Element | <u>48819.1.1</u> |
| Federal Project No. | <u>N/A</u> |

Prepared By:

8/20/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

19C97095C75A467
 Samuel Cullum, PE, Project Manager
 Kisinger Campo & Associates Corp.

Prepared For:

Structures Management Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Reviewed By:

8/20/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

8C1643E6874A457
 Phillip Harris, III, PE
 Environmental Analysis Unit Head
 North Carolina Department of Transportation



Approved

If all of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered “no,” NCDOT approves this Categorical Exclusion.

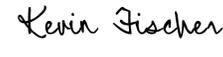


Certified

If any of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered “yes,” NCDOT certifies this Categorical Exclusion.

8/21/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

ED19A18D88FC490
 Kevin Fischer, PE
 Assistant State Structures Engineer
 PEF Coordination, Program Management & Field Ops.

FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

N/A
Date

N/A
John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Beaufort County
Bridge No. 060072 over Chocowinity Creek on SR 1127 (Possum Track Road)
WBS No. 48819.1.1
TIP No. BR-0110

COMMITMENTS FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

NCDOT Division 2 – Emergency Services and School Transportation Coordination:

Southside High School and Beaufort County emergency services shall be notified of project construction at least one month prior to beginning of construction. Contact Beaufort County emergency services at (252) 946-2046 and Southside High School at (252) 9740-1888.

NCDOT Division 2 – Access:

Access will be maintained throughout construction for the Edwards Cemetery and Southside High School to the west and east of the project.

NCDOT Hydraulics Unit – FEMA Coordination:

The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT'S Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to FEMA-regulated stream(s). Therefore, the Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of project construction, certifying that the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

NCDOT Division 2 – T & E Species: Northern long-eared bat (NLEB)

The USFWS has developed a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), USACE, and NCDOT for the NLEB (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for five years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Beaufort County, where this project is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of a final listing determination through April 30, 2020.

Attachments

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
HIGHWAY BUILDING
P. O. BOX 25201
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611

SUBJECT DISTURBANCE MAP PROJECT BR-0110
BRIDGE No. 060072 BEAUFORT COUNTY
PREPARED BY DAA DATE 6/11/2019 STATION -
CHECKED BY JHD DATE 6/14/2019 STR NO - SHEET - OF -



Figure 2: BR-0110 Project Disturbance Area Map

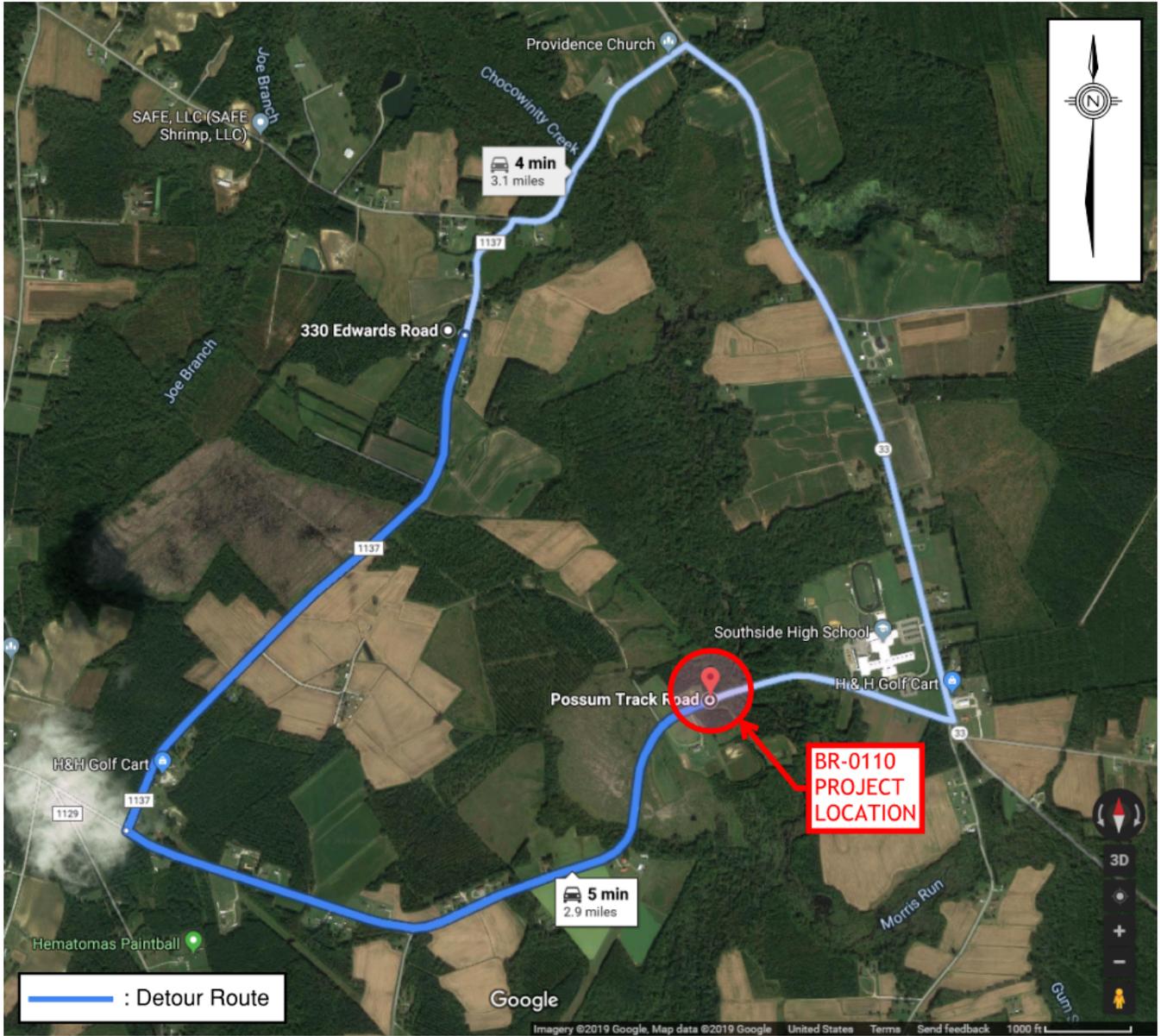


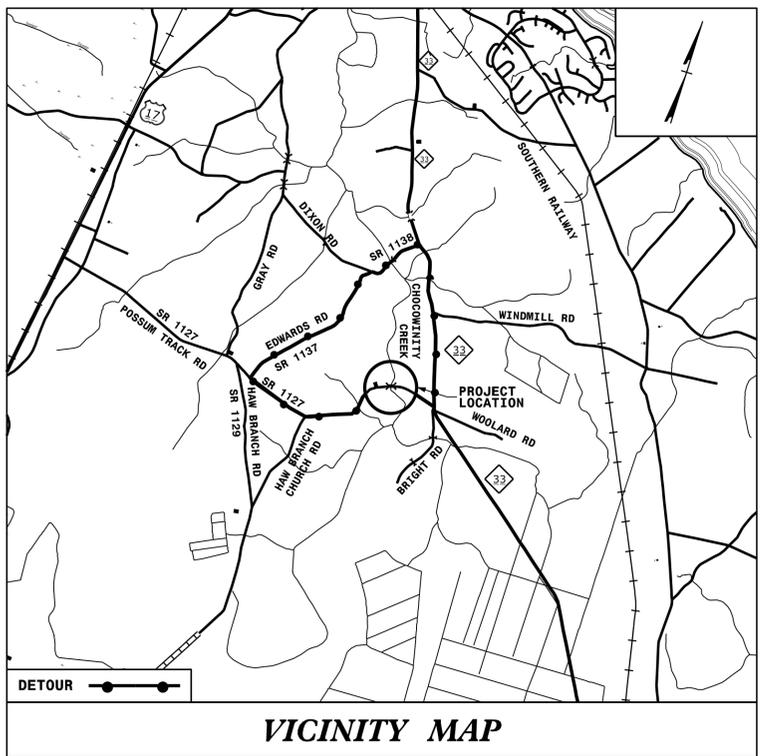
Figure 3: BR-0110 Detour Map

09/08/19

See Sheet 1A For Index of Sheets

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| STATE | STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO. | SHEET NO. | TOTAL SHEETS |
| N.C. | BR-0110 | 1 | |
| STATE PROJ. NO. | F. A. PROJ. NO. | DESCRIPTION | |
| 67110.1.1 | TBD | PE | |
| 67110.1.1 | TBD | R/W, UTILITIES CONSTRUCTION | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

TIP PROJECT: BR-0110



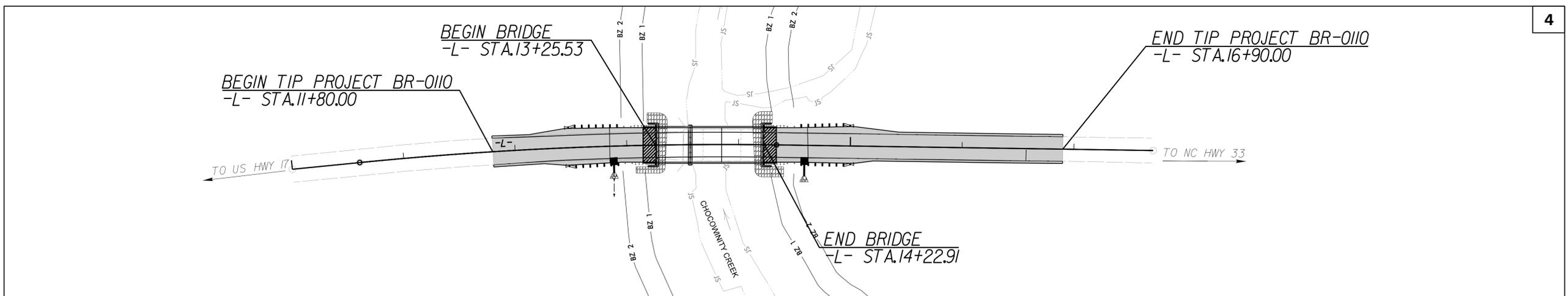
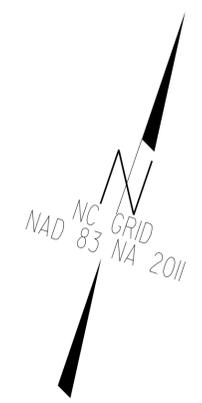
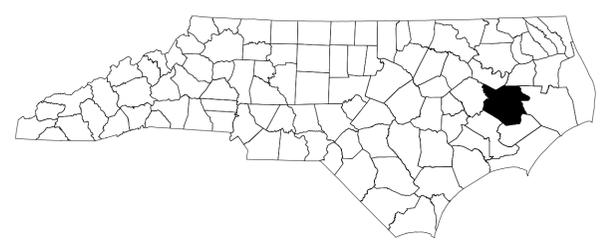
VICINITY MAP

R/W PLANS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
BEAUFORT COUNTY

LOCATION: BRIDGE 060072 ON SR 1127 (POSSUM TRACK RD) OVER CHOCOWINITY CREEK

TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, DRAINAGE, PAVING AND STRUCTURE

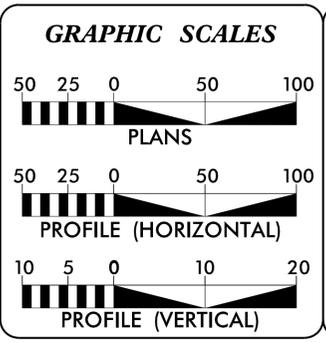


4

CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD
THIS PROJECT IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES.
THIS IS NOT A CONTROL OF ACCESS PROJECT.

PRELIMINARY PLANS **DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL**
DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

CONTRACT:



DESIGN DATA

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| ADT 2016 = | 610 |
| V = | 55 MPH |
| T = | 6%* |
| (*TTST 3% + | DUALS 3%) |
| FUNC CLASS = | LOCAL RURAL |
| SUB-REGIONAL TIER | |

PROJECT LENGTH

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| LENGTH ROADWAY TIP PROJECT BR-0110 | = | 0.078 MILES |
| LENGTH STRUCTURES TIP PROJECT BR-0110 | = | 0.018 MILES |
| TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT BR-0110 | = | 0.096 MILES |

NCDOT CONTACT: DAVID STUTTS, PE
SMU PROJECT MANAGER

Prepared in the Office of:

KCA
KISINGER CAMPO & ASSOCIATES
NC FIRM LICENSE No: C-1506
301 Fayetteville St., Suite 1500
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919)882-7839

2018 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

RIGHT OF WAY DATE: JONATHAN LANGSTON, PE
AUGUST 2019 PROJECT ENGINEER

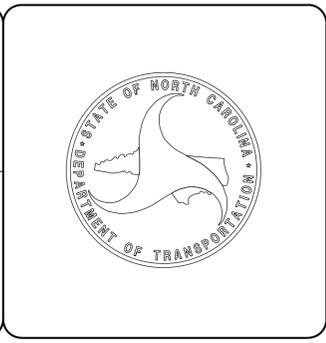
LETTING DATE: JASON DEBONE
02/18/2020 PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: P.E.

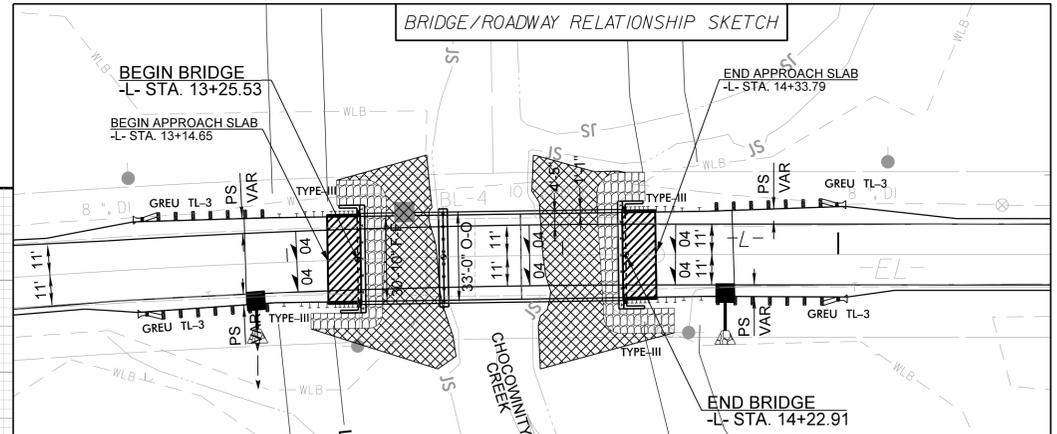
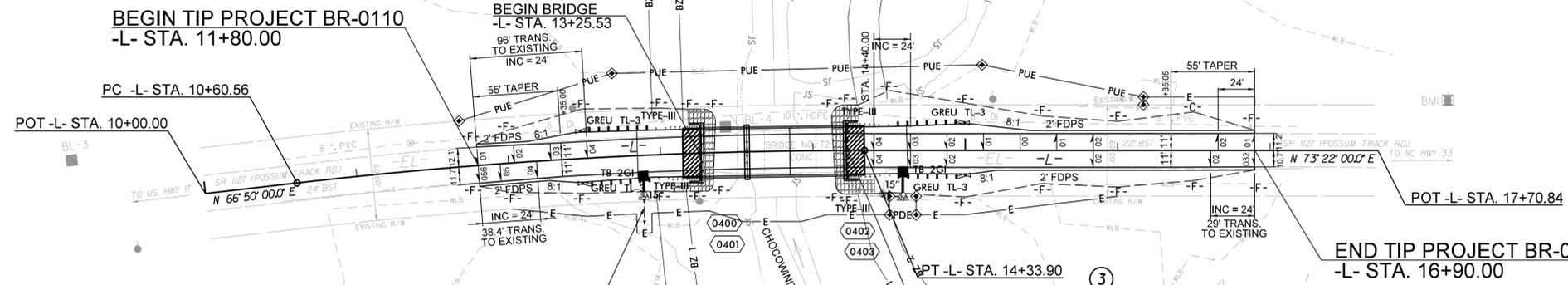
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: P.E.



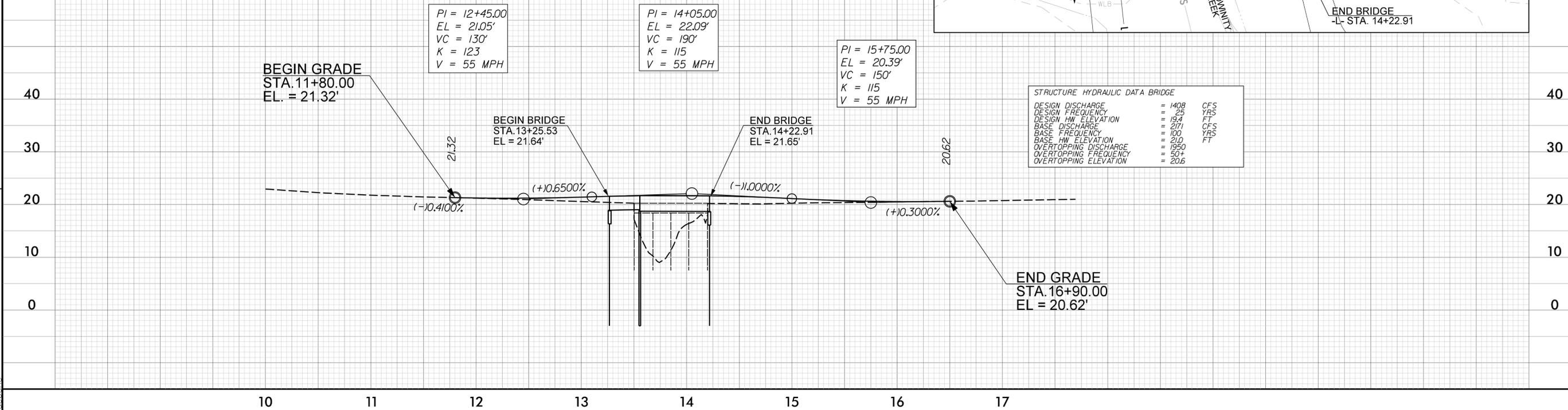
| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| PROJECT REFERENCE NO. BR-0110 | | SHEET NO. 4 | |
| RW SHEET NO. | | | |
| ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER | | HYDRAULICS ENGINEER | |
| PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION | | | |
| DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED | | | |
| PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF: | |  NC FIRM LICENSE NO. C-1508 301 Fayetteville St., Suite 1500 Raleigh, NC 27601 (919) 862-7839 | |

-L-
 PI Sta 12+47.43
 $\Delta = 6' 32'' 00.0''$ (RT)
 $D = 1' 45'' 00.0''$
 $L = 373.33'$
 $T = 186.87'$
 $R = 3,274.04'$
 $SE = 4\%$
 $RO = 96'$



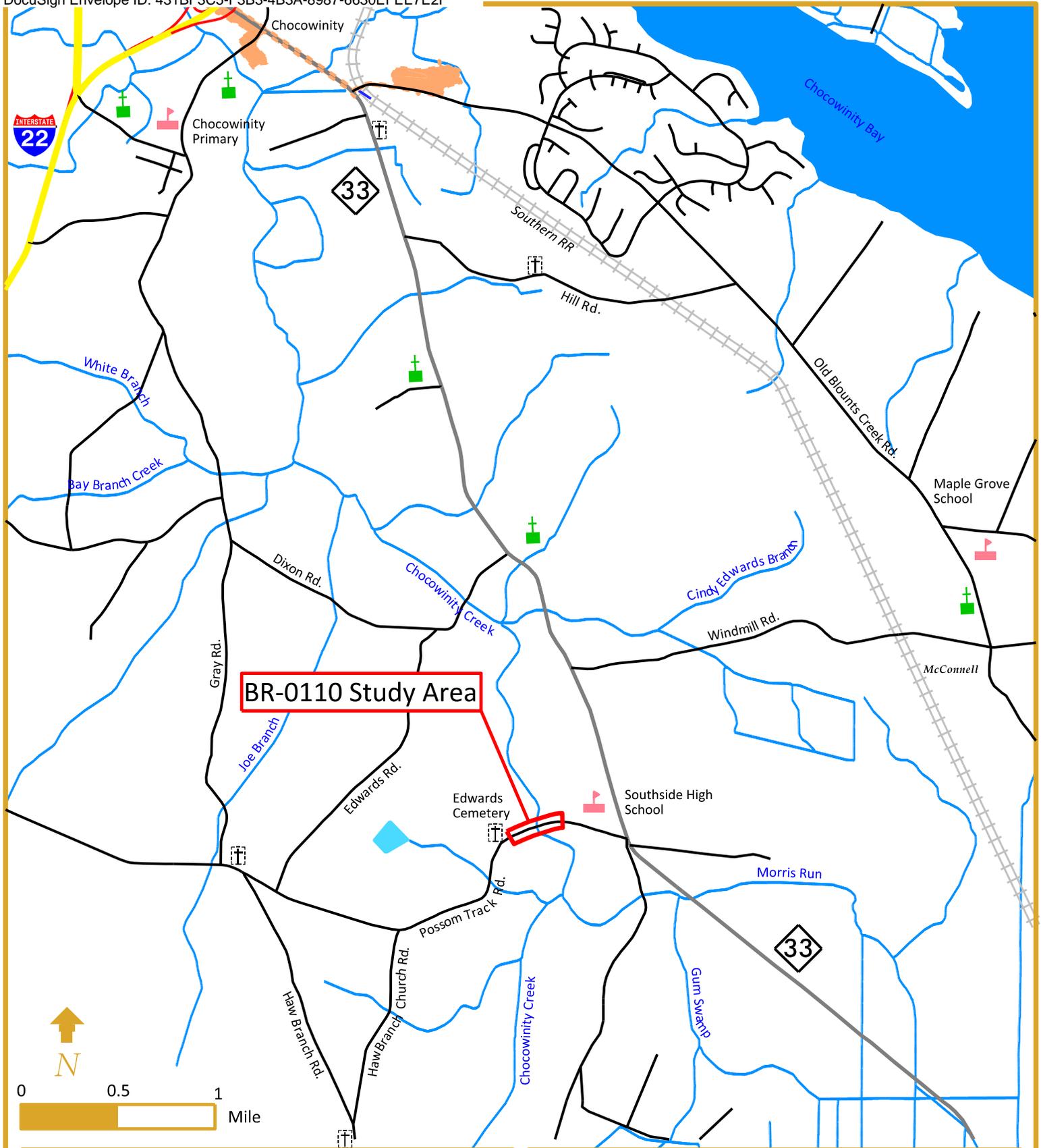
-L- SR 1127 (OVER CHOCOWINITY CREEK)

BMI
 -BL- STA. 14+04.00, 18' LT
 -L- STA. 17+70.84, 32.7' LT
 EL = 20.08
 BRIDGE SPIKE SET IN POWER POLE



REVISIONS

01-AUG-2019 10:39
 BR-0110_Rdy_psh.dgn
 ida.bone



BR-0110 Study Area



BR-0110

Replacement of Bridge No. 060072
over Chocowinity Creek
on SR 1127 (Possum Track Rd.)

Vicinity Map

Legend:

-  School
-  Church
-  Cemetery
-  Chocowinity
-  NC Route
-  Interstate Route
-  Railroad



NCDOT Division 2: Beaufort County

18-09-0074



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES NO SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It is not valid for Archaeological Resources. You must consult separately with the Archaeology Group.

PROJECT INFORMATION

| | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|--|
| Project No: | BR-0110 | County: | Beaufort |
| WBS No.: | 67110.1.1 | Document Type: | MCC |
| Fed. Aid No: | | Funding: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal |
| Federal Permit(s): | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Permit Type(s): | USACE |
| Project Description: Replace Bridge No. 72 on SR 1127 (Possum Track Rd) over Chocowinity Creek. | | | |

SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:

Review of HPO quad maps, relevant background reports, historic designations roster, and indexes was undertaken on October 18, 2018. Based on this review there are no NR, DE, LL, SL or SS in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). There are no structures over 50 years of age, except for the Edwards Family Cemetery. This small rural cemetery contains a collection of majority late 20th century markers. According to Find-A-Grave, the oldest headstone dates from 1871. This cemetery does not meet the requirements for Criteria Consideration C. No Survey is required at this time.

Why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified significant historic architectural or landscape resources in the project area: Using HPO GIS website and county tax data provides reliable information regarding the structures in the APE. These combined utilities are considered valid for the purposes of determining the likelihood of historic resources being present.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

Map(s) Previous Survey Info. Photos Correspondence Design Plans

FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Historic Architecture and Landscapes -- NO SURVEY REQUIRED

Shelby Reap

NCDOT Architectural Historian

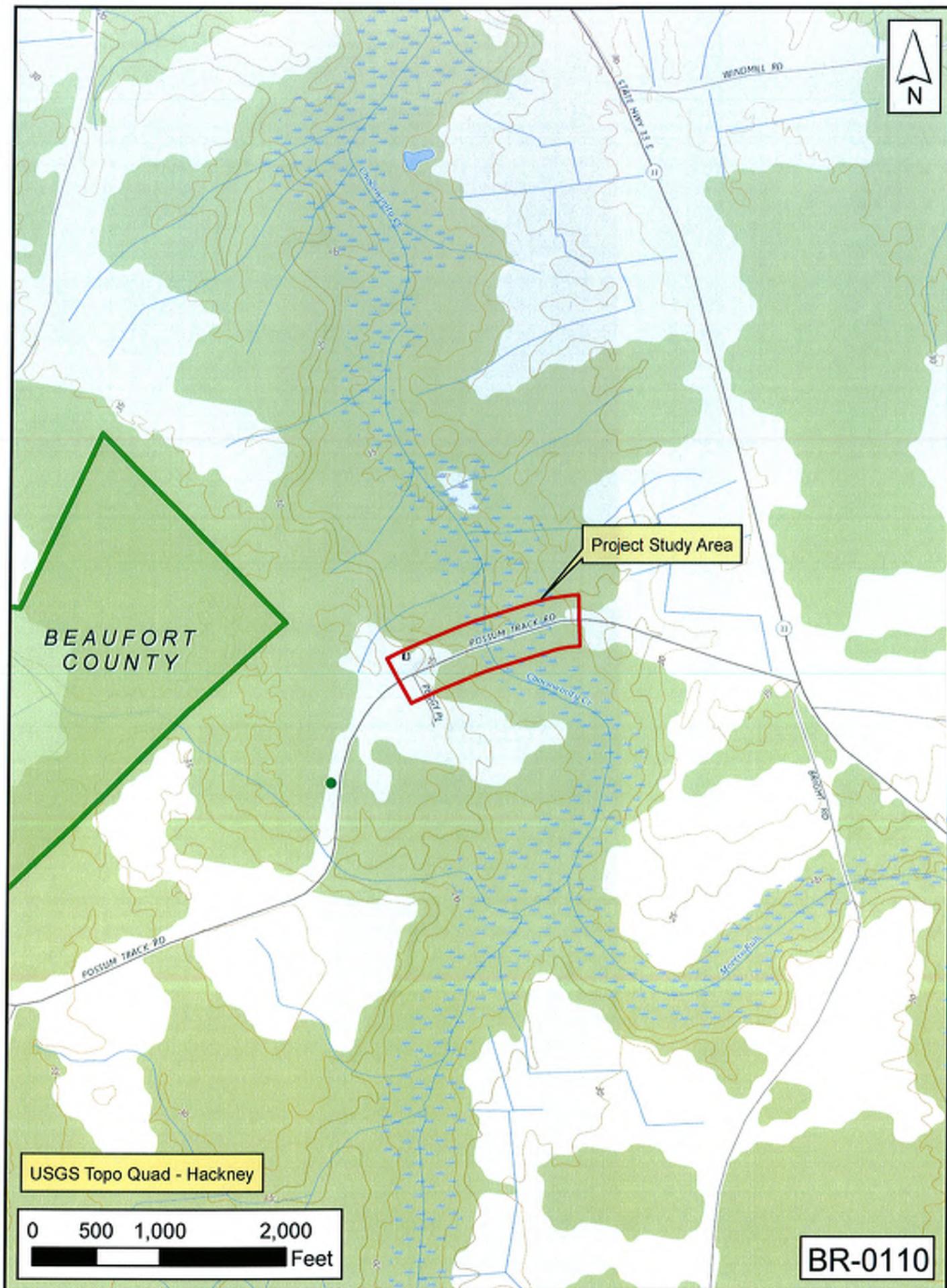
10/18/18

Date



Edwards Family Cemetery





18-09-0074

Brief Explanation of why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified historic properties in the APE:

The APE has a low potential for the recovery of archaeological remains based on soil data (wetlands) and agricultural impacts. It is unlikely to contain significant, intact, and preserved archaeological deposits eligible for NRHP inclusion. The Edwards Cemetery, situated in the northwestern project quadrant, should be avoided during construction activities. As currently proposed as a state-funded project with federal permit interaction, no further consultation is advocated. A finding of "no archaeological survey required" is considered appropriate.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

See attached: Map(s) Previous Survey Info Photos Correspondence
 Photocopy of County Survey Notes Other:

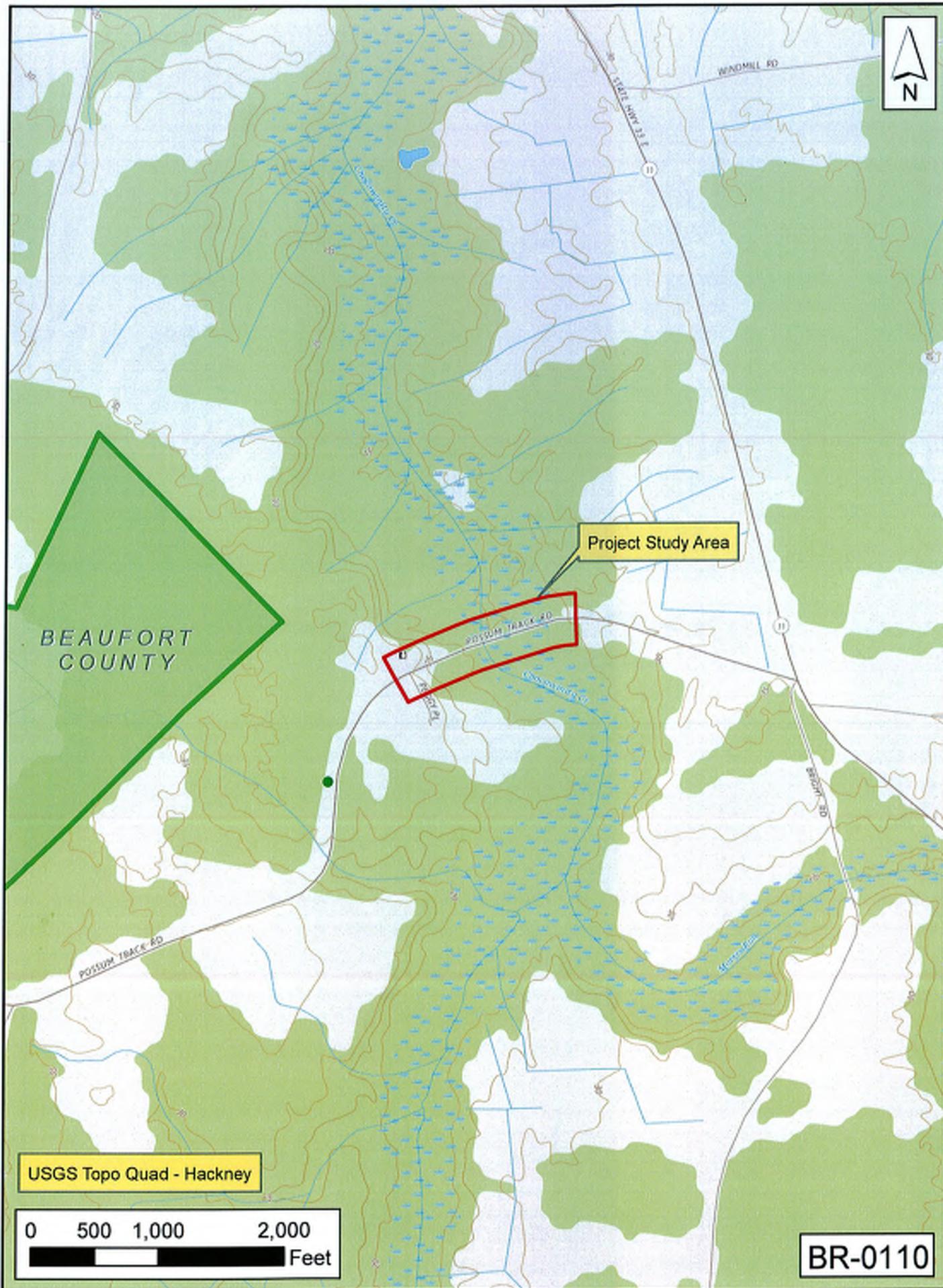
FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

NO ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY REQUIRED



NCDOT

9-27-2018



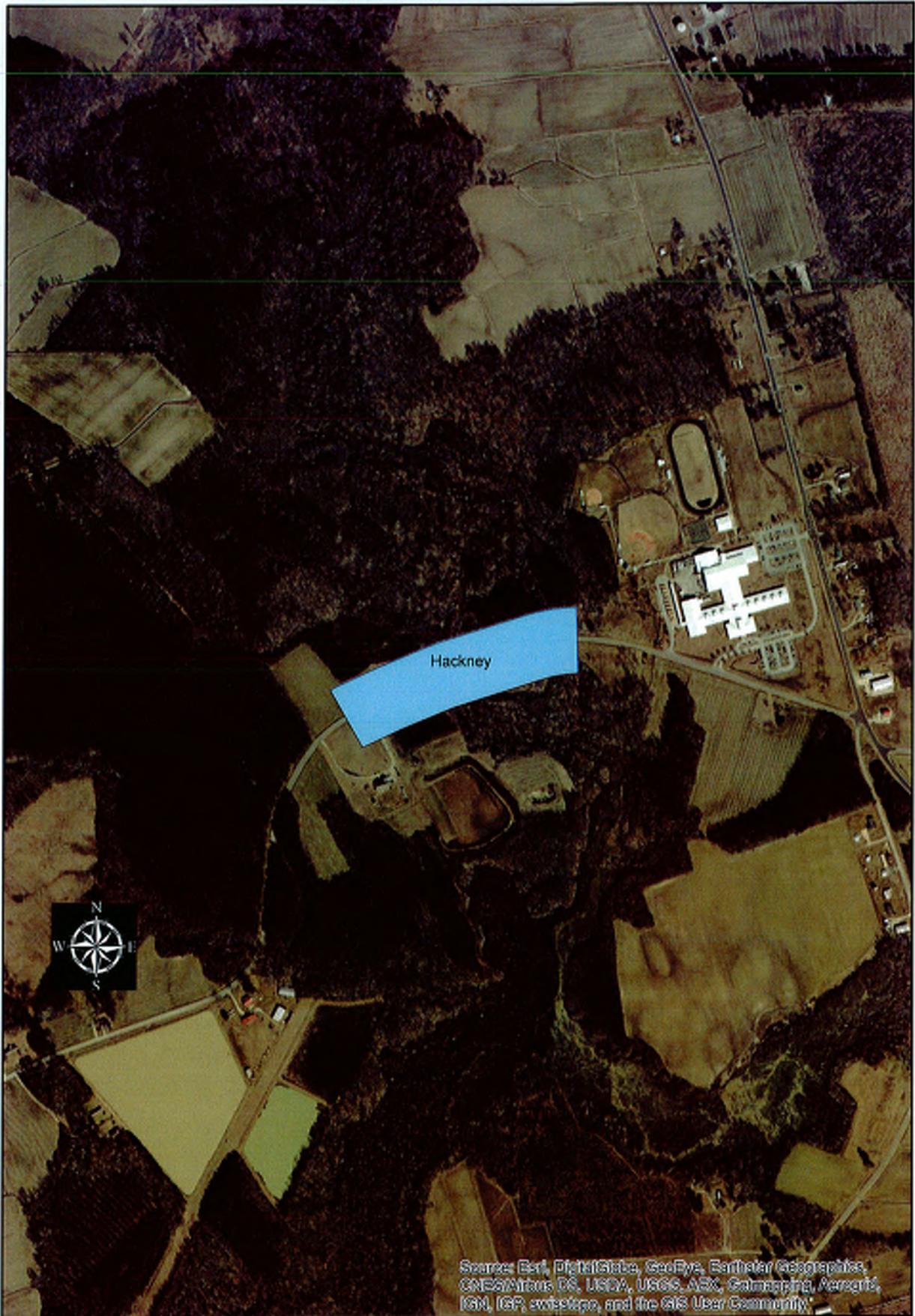
Project Study Area

BEAUFORT
COUNTY

USGS Topo Quad - Hackney

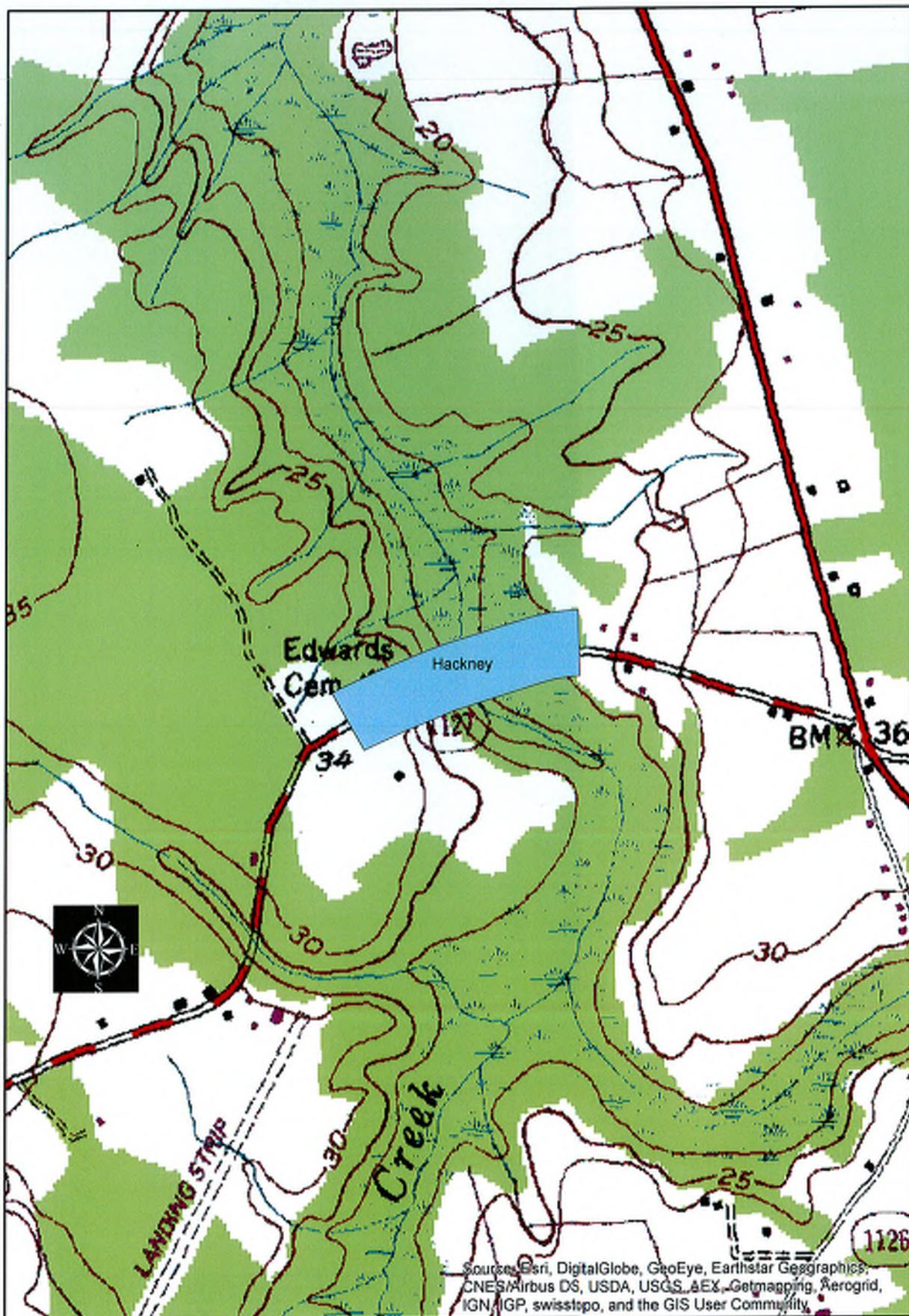
0 500 1,000 2,000
Feet

BR-0110



Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroX, Calmapping, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

ARC-GIS aerial shape file map showing the location and boundaries of the project APE in Beaufort County, North Carolina.



Portion of the Hackney topographic map showing the location and boundaries of the project APE in Beaufort County, North Carolina.